A National Debt

By ARTHUR H. D. HAIR

Honorary Secretary, The "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund (Incorporated, P.Q.).

"THE LAST POST"

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"LAST POST" I. N. & M. CONTINGENCY FUND
P. O. Box 1382, MONTREAL.

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INTRODUCTION

By W. H. ATHERTON, Ph.D., LL.D., Litt. D., Vice-President, "Last Post" Fund.

The following articles appeared originally in the "Canadian Municipal Journal" for the months of October, November and December, 1918, and February, 1919, in the form in which they are now reprinted. They were written by Mr. Arthur H. D. Hair who has been Honorary Secretary of the "Last Post" Imperial Naval & Military Contingency Fund since its inception in Canada in 1909—indeed it is mainly due to his incessant labors that the germinal idea of the "Last Post" Fund was sown in the British Empire and nurtured to its present successful result—in fact, it now stands for a tree-like demonstration of what can be done by a voluntary association in behalf of a hitherto much-neglected class of men, who in the past, after the various wars of the British Empire had often received scanty justice or recognition, so that many after spending their last days as recipients of charity in the Casual Wards of Poorhouses or Refuges, finally reached paupers' graves, even if they did not become used as an "Experimentum in corpore vile" for young medical students.

The object of the writer and the Association he represents, in the subjoined articles, is to prevail upon the Government of Canada and the other partners of the British Empire to consider the wisdom of assuming responsibility for adequate and decorous interment of those who have faithfully answered the Empire's call, whether they be on the active or retired list at time of

decease, and this in answer to a rational and deep seated sentiment of the public.

As a secondary object the Association has since its inception in 1909 also urged the dignified upkeep of existing—though much neglected—military cemeteries of the past, and the providing of further National Military Cemeteries for the future; a thing which since the beginning of the war just happily ended has become most imperative. Furthermore this Association has urged the keeping of the most exact records of the Naval and Military life—facts of those buried in Canada, as well as of the locations of their resting places.

In order to promote these ideals, the "Last Post" Association has since 1909, maintained its own "Gardens of Sleep" at its own expense in the Cote des Neiges and Mount Royal Cemeteries on the slopes of Mount Royal in Montreal and has kept the closest records of those lying buried there. The Association has also a special Charter for the Province of Quebec, whereby it is in the position of acting as "next of kin" to those sailors or soldiers who are friendless at death, and would otherwise become "a public charge" thereby having been able to save many an "absent one" from the Homeland, from abandonment in the last extremity.

The "Last Post" Fund claims to be the first Association of the kind in the Empire which has ever acted for cases in such circumstances.

The success has been such, that others by special request—not indigent, in any sense of the meaning—have been buried in the "Last Post" plots. Finally, during the last years of the war, it being recognized that there were no other plots for soldiers who died after return from the war, though still on the active roll at time of decease, the Association yielding to the desire of the friends of the departed to have their heroes lie

in close proximity with others who had also defended their country in a military capacity, has allowed its limited burial spaces to become semi-official military cemeteries. This privilege cannot go on longer, but there has been proved the widespread desire of citizens of Canada to see their soldiers properly honored in death whether they die while actively engaged in the army, or subsequently become the victims of misfortune after demobilization.

The Association desires to see the Government itself take up, **as a public obligation,** such work, from the hands of a volunteer Association for the future, as the time is now ripe, and public sentiment is sufficiently awakened.

If the reader will glance at the subjoined extracts from letters, dating from 1909, welcoming the object of this Association, there will be wonder that there was ever a need for such an organization to point such a moral.

The "Last Post" Association is especially pleased to see the ideals of its primary object about to be realized **elsewhere.** In this regard the reader is referred to a recent letter received by the Secretary of the Association from Sir Frederick G. Kenyon, Advisor to the Imperial Graves Registration Commission, advocating that **State aid** be given for the burial of any sailor or soldier, even in a **civil cemetery** if it should be requested. Sir Frederick after recognizing that the primary object of this Association was "a fine and noble one," pointed out, that in England "an order was issued early in the war that **no soldier should be buried as a pauper, and no one can question the propriety of such an order."**

This quotation may rightly conclude the foreword, as being indirectly a fitting tribute to the pioneering work of the "Last Post" Fund started in 1909, before there was ever a thought of the conditions aroused by the aftermath of the Great War.

W. H. A.

IN POTTER'S FIELDS

(Dedicated to the "Last Post" Fund, by Sergeant John Joseph Atherton, C.E.F., Calgary, Alberta, Canada).

Where sleep our heroes of the PAST,
Unhonored by a "Last Post" blast?
Can stately Abbey walls yet tell?
Is Obelisk their Sentinel?
Or, are their bones (now bleached in death)
Forgotten, with their parting breath?
Unwept, unhallowed, and unnamed
—In Potter's Fields?

Where rest our men of OTHER DAYS,
Stern fighting Sires of by-gone frays?
Is Pantheon their embellishment?
Or Mauseleum their monument?
Or, are they rudely massed in tiers—
With rough-hewn wood sepulchral biers?
Now rotting 'neath the dank foul earth
—In Potter's Fields?

. . . . . .

Shame! Shame! that such was heroes' bed!
We lacked in duty to our Dead.
Why prate of maudlin sentiment?
Their precious blood for us was spent!
NOW shall their names be carved in gold!
War paeans sung, their deeds extolled!
Their bones interred, **NOT like of old**
—In Potter's Fields?

—JOHN JOSEPH ATHERTON.

(Reprint from the Canadian Municipal Journal).

A NATIONAL DEBT

By A. H. D. HAIR

Hon. Secretary "Last Post" Fund.

"If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow,
In Flanders Fields."

—(Lieut.-Col. John McCrae).

THE VALUE OF SENTIMENT

A noble comment from a noble son of the Empire, urging us to a full appreciation of our citizenship, our responsibilities, our tremendous debt to those who have, to those who are now doing so, and to those who for the next fifty years will pay the supreme price of Empire building. That challenge comes direct from the battle-field of Flanders, from the lips of one whose poetical inspiration, life and death, were consistently Imperial and ennobling. It comes to us as a waft from the "Melting Pot" of nations now being moulded into a new code of international ethics, and it binds and points us to an irrefutable truth, that each nation claiming for its present condition of belligerency the fundamental principles of the human race, owes an incomprehensible debt of gratitude to those who have sacrificed the one thing most dear to all, **the life they offered in humanity's interests,** and for the welfare of generations yet unborn.

How can we repay this debt?

As the purpose of this article is to direct and arouse public attention to one phase of the many answers to that complex question, we intend to confine our remarks to that one in particular, while not forgetting the other and **more material phases,** for our subject, if less material, is of incalculably more importance from a fundamental

standpoint to the nation. It forms the basis on which the Laws of Nations have been founded from time immemorial, it is **sentiment — national sentiment** — that which launches us into war, or frames our codes of conditions of peace—that which above all other things should be **consistent,** if necessarily more or less complex and mythical.

Our standard of national ethics is based upon **Sentiment,** in times of trouble we appeal to **National Sentiment** to "stand to arms" in defence of what we as a nation consider to be **Justice,** and in times of peace **we trust to the nation,** that made the appeal, to see that justice is done towards those who answered the appeal, and in so far only as the nation responds to its self-imposed responsibility, is it worthy of the name of **a Nation.**

Let us pause for a few moments and consider the consistency, or otherwise, of our past and present code of national ethics, as applicable to those of our fellow citizens who having answered the national call of duty, subsequently fall on evil times and in the extremity of death become a **public charge.** What is the nation's gratitude in return for their services? Is it possible, citizen, that as a "Christian nation," as an empire on which the sun never sets, we have no other answer than **A Pauper's Grave?** Yes, it is not only possible, but **it is true.** That is the phase of our national indebtedness we desire to arouse your interest in; the one phase that, in the words of a distinguished Canadian—**"should take precedence of all others.** Let us give you his version:—

> "The indifference with which the peoples of all times have accepted the services of those who fight for our liberties, and permit them to sink into oblivion, reflects very gravely on the ingratitude of humanity. To provide honorable burial for a soldier or sailor who has faithfully served his country should not be left to the chance generosity of the individual, **it is a duty that should take precedence of all others.** To honor and protect in death, seems but a small return to him who has protected the nation's honor in life.

Your movement is one having my heartiest endorsation, and I consider it worthy of the best and highest support."

A famous British General expressed himself as follows:—

"From the dead, no return, not even gratitude or thanks, can be expected, and it is this, that in my humble opinion, ennobles your aim, **and puts it on a higher, if less material, basis than any ordinary charity."**

What is the "movement" and "aim" that these two distiguished men refer to in such eloquent and forceful terms? It is the primary "aim" of an Association known as the "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund, which justifies its existence under the three following "objects":—

The Primary Object—is to prevent the ignominy and ingratitude of the abandonment to a pauper's grave at death, of any man, of whom it can be proved that he had served his country honorably, either in the Army, Navy or Auxiliary Forces.

For the past ten years, within the Province of Quebec, it has been made absolutely unnecessary for any friendless ex-service man to reach a pauper's grave, through the existence of this organization, and by legislation obtained and put into execution by this Fund, though the fact is not fully realized by the general public.

The Fund receives no Federal, Provincial, or Civic grants, and has no salaried officials, nor does it pay any gratuities for work accomplished, and its work is unique throughout the whole of the British Empire.

This national obligation, of respectful interment of our defenders, the Association seeks to eventually place—where it rightly belongs—with the Government.

The Secondary Object—provides the privilege of interment in its burial plots, of any honorably discharged deceased soldier or sailor for whom request may be made, —not through poverty, but for military and sentimental reasons—on condition that those applying, contribute to

the funds of the Association and abide by the regulations governing the burial plots; thus the Fund renders a public service of which ample evidence of appreciation has already been given.

It will be noted in the last paragraph of the primary object, that it is desired to place this national obligation where it rightly belongs—with the **Government**—but it has been very truthfully said by someone, that "Governments and Corporations, have no "soul," and realizing the veracity of that remark from experience, it is desired to remove the stigma and ingratitude of "charity" by placing the financial responsibility there—where it rightly belongs—while retaining a measure of executive supervision and control.

Citizens, if you are worthy of that appellation, stop for a few moments and give this matter your consideration and support, consider the inconsistency of our profession of gratitude to those of our fellow men who through loss of life, limb and health, have made the nation what it is.

Next to the Creator of the Universe—whose incarnation is reflected in the sacrifice of humanity on the altar of war—we owe all that is of any value or importance in this world to those who have participated on the battlefield in the world's purification, and yet should death overtake one of these in the hour of adversity, we abandon them, we don't know them, we cast them aside, we relegate them to an unknown pauper's grave, we deny them six feet of the soil they proffered their lives in defence of—**and we call ourselves a Christian nation.**

Where is the consistency of our national ethics? where is the national sentiment we boast of? Where is the national gratitude? Are we justified, as an idealistic nation? Is there one logical argument in support of such ingratitude? We most emphatically say NO, and nothing short of national financial parsimony is the cause, or else our philosophies and theories of national grandeur are an empty hypocritical farce.

Then, citizen, where do we stand to-day on this subject? It is for you to study the subsequent explanatory articles, and by your expression of opinion, your influence

with your fellow citizens, and your united support and supplication with the Government to assist in bringing about the desired end.

Our immediate policy is to test the sincerity and consistency of the Government's pledge of loyalty to the rights of our Empire builders.

During the ten years of existence of that worthy Association known as the "Last Post" Fund it has on six different occasions definitely approached the Federal and Provincial Governments by deputation, to take the subject up—Officials of the very highest rank in the land, from the Prime Minister down, have committed themselves to the justice and worthiness of the cause, but as yet no definite action has been taken, and the matter remains one of "consideration."

The cause of the Fund's inception was to meet a crying need, and prevent the repetition of a national disgrace in the abandonment at death of those who have faithfully served the nation and their fellow citizens. The fund has of necessity been maintained by public subscription and a system of financial co-operation; but it was specifically agreed at the beginning that it should be maintained **as far removed as possible** from the category of "Public Charities"; therefore after Dominion-wide propagation of the principle and appeal to the nation to assume its debt, the Association has faithfully completed its object, and at least will leave an indelible testimony to its existence in Mount Royal and Cote des Neiges Cemeteries, Montreal.

THE NATION'S GRATITUDE (?)

From time to time we hear through the press suggestions of reciprocal liquidation of International War debts. Whether such a stupendous undertaking can ever be equitably and satisfactorily arranged is within the bounds of question, but there is a "national debt" that the nations of the world can never liquidate, and that debt is the debt of gratitude we owe to those who at the command of their respective Governments offered their lives.

From England, Austral, many a Scottish hill
Where 'mong the heather sweet, the blue-bell blows
From Erin, where the shamrock blooms at will
From "Lady of the Snows" they came,
And now beneath an alien sky
In many a lonely valley, side by side
By Death, made closer brothers, do they lie:—
The Brave, who nobly died.

And added to those who paid the supreme sacrifice on the field of honor, will be the terrible aftermath of human wreckage that will strew the path of the next fifty years. What is our responsibility towards these and especially their offspring and dependents? Can we as a nation avoid responsibility for respectful interment at death of any man who has responded—either voluntarily or by draft —to the rally to arms, should that man subsequent to discharge, fall on hard times, and die friendless and in indigency?

Technically, the Government to-day finds a way out of its responsibility in this matter, though morally it cannot, and the shame and ingratitude of abandonment of its heroes in the last extremity redounds to the nation's disgrace.

Let us for a moment consider the class from which we principally draw our fighting men—It is true that the Empire as a whole has furnished of her very best blood, and men of position and wealth, but nevertheless it is an incontrovertible fact that the vast majority have been of the humbler and improvident classes who live practically from hand to mouth, and who when adversity and the Reaper come upon them, have little or nothing financially to fall back upon; in consequence, it is not surprising that perforce many are obliged to suffer humiliation and admit their improvidence, under the most trying circumstances; and strange, though nevertheless true to humanity's traits, there are those amongst us small enough to have little sympathy for enforced penury, going so far as suggest that failure to-provide for such a contingency as death merits the reward it gets from the nation—a pauper's grave. While the writer would fain deny the most despicable human creature

Christian burial, there might be some, more or less, logical argument in support of the above contention of the astute (though soul-less) political economist who advances such a theory, were it not that we champion the soldier's or sailor's right to "six feet of earth" by reason of the fact that he (literally) fights for it, and furthermore, whether he has done so voluntarily or through enforcement of the Draft Law should not affect the principle in regard to the nation's obligation and self-respect. **It is the very least return we can give those we ask to do our fighting for us that we might live in peace and safety.**

The periodical press reports and the degrading spectacle of an old soldier who had "fought and bled for his country," and in the last extremity of death been abandoned to a pauper's grave, inspired a few men in Montreal in 1909 to band themselves together, and form an association which they called the "Last Post" Fund, the primary purpose of which association was to prevent a recurrence in the Province of Quebec of such a spectacle of national ingratitude, at least until the Government could be convinced that it should assume this responsibility. This association, by reason of its commendable object, has succeeded in aligning with its cause the names and sympathy of men of the very widest prominence and note in all walks of life, who have committed themselves to the principle that **"To honour and protect in death seems but a small return to him who has protected the nation's honour in life."**

Since the year of its inception in 1909 the association has approached the Militia Council, as well as the Federal and Provincial Governments, by strongly endorsed petitions on the following dates:—

The Militia Council—December 4th, 1909.
The Militia Council—January 2nd, 1913.
The Militia Council—November 14th, 1914.
The Provincial Premier—July 17th, 1916.
The Prime Minister (Federal)—Aug. 9th, 1917.
The Militia Council—October 14th, 1918.

In addition to which the association has placed before the Government the draft of a scheme—based on ten years' practical experience—for the solution of this problem, and the creation of the proper machinery to deal with it, but

all with the net result to date, that **"the matter will receive the careful consideration of the Federal authorities"** and **"the Provincial authorities feel that the Federal ones should move first."**

In the meantime men are daily returning from the front, and the Government is relieving itself of responsibility—by demobilization—of those physical wrecks who are "medically unfit for further service" with a Pension that makes no proviso for the contingency of death should it occur one day prior to receipt of the pension cheque—an indication of shortsightedness in the pension appropriations.

During the recent epidemic of influenza, when seven or eight deaths a day have occurred amongst the military men alone in Montreal, the absolute lack of a military burial reservation has been mitigated by the provision of the "Last Post" Fund whereby those eligible may be interred in the Fund's plots on condition that a subscription is made, and the rules of the Association observed. Had the Government's attention never been drawn to the need of such provision as the "Last Post" Fund has made by voluntary effort, there would be some excuse, but on the face of the facts as presented, it has shown a deplorable apathy.

In further proof of the "Last Post" Fund having accomplished and given practical demonstration of a crying need that should have been undertaken by the Government at least at the beginning of the war, the following brief statistics will be interesting: Since its inception, and to date, sixty-six Roman Catholics and one hundred and nine of other denominations, totalling one hundred and seventy-four soldiers, and one sailor, have been interred in the two plots owned by the Association. Approximately 80 per cent. of these cases have occurred during the present war and are steadily on the increase.

Failing the provision of a national military burial ground, and for various good reasons, the local military authorities availed themselves of the opportunity afforded to bury many men in the "Last Post" plots who at time of decease were on the active list; on the other hand, it is a matter of satisfaction to the patriotic citizen, and of credit to the Association, to state that nearly 32 per cent.

of the total burials in the plots have actually been saved the ignominy of an unknown grave, while no less than **five returned soldiers reached the city morgue of Montreal, and were reclaimed by the Fund for burial.**

It is worthy of note in passing, that the work of the "Last Post" Fund, which entails a vast amount of onerous and doleful energy, is done by the officers of the Association without remuneration.

Through this organization the Province of Quebec is unique with regard to the care of the dead, "who died that we might live."

Apart from what this Fund has done, **what has Canada as a whole done to meet this debt we owe to our heroes?**

This apathy towards a subject of the greatest importance reflects very discreditably on the conception of national sentiment by those who are responsible for its evasion.

Looking around, we find that in the Motherland, while much remains to be desired and adequate, they at least appreciated at the outset of the war that many Canadian and other overseas Dominion lads would die in their midst far from home and friends, and accordingly apportioned a considerable tract of land in cemeteries at Shorncliffe and elsewhere where these heroes would be given an honored resting place, and annually huge processions of children rally there to strew the graves with flowers and perpetuate their memory. In France (where patriotism is closely associated with religion, and understood in a very literal sense) we find they have the most profound respect for the dead of their allies as well as their own, and have already formed a powerful association headed by the President of the Republic, to tend with the deepest respect the graves of all the Allies' soldiers whose mortal remains rest in French soil, and it can be confidently assumed from the tone of a letter sent out by this association to "The Fathers and Mothers of our departed heroes" throughout the North American Continent that no ex-soldier of her Allies will reach an unknown grave in France.

Turning our attention to our Ally on the South—the United States—we find that it was the first nation in

the world whose Capitol and State Governments make provision for the contingency of death of their ex-soldiers and sailors, and to prevent abandonment in the last extremity each and every State in the Union makes a money grant ranging from $40 to $75 for funeral expenses, with a grave in one of the National Cemeteries.

Is it not high time that we in Canada should rise to the occasion and in support of our repeated profession of loyalty to our boys at the front, see to it that when they return, many of them doomed to a shortened period of life, they will not be the objects of charity at death.

LOCALISED GRATITUDE

WAR! WAR! WAR! Musket and powder and ball
Ah, what do we fight so for? Ah, why have we battles at all?
Tis "Justice" must be done they say, the Nation's honour to keep
Alas, that justice should be so dear, and human lives so cheap.—(From the "Song of the Sword).

If wars must be, and humanity must pay the price in blood, money and misery the "Nation's honour to keep," then in justice to the memory of those who pay the price let the nation see to it that the deeds of valour of their heroes are passed on to posterity, and that not one of them shall be abandoned in the hour of death, but shall at least be accorded "six feet of earth" in which to rest their weary bones, while their names shall be carved deep in marble or granite for generations yet unborn to profit thereby,—such is only consistent with the traditions we preach.

If National Sentiment means anything in the development of the nation, it means consistency of practice and precept.

It has been the ambition and privilege of the promoters of the "Last Post" I. N. & M. C. Fund for the past ten years to point out this "National Debt" which by reason of its peculiar character has been (metaphorically speaking) relegated to the debit side of the national "profit and

loss" account, and we might add in passing that the financial loss in the end will be infinitesimally small compared with the moral loss to the nation, unless it is recovered.

Has this organization served a useful purpose to the community? and the State? and if so, in what way?

In answer to the first question, we venture the assertion that it has, and the second may be answered equally in the affirmative.

Let us enumerate several of the ways in which it has proved its utility:—

First, it has proven by public, private, and press correspondence, that public sentiment and men of the highest thought and ideals are sympathetically in accord with the basic principles and objects of the Association.

In practictl fulfilment of its primary object during the period of its existence, it has inculcated the principle of the nation's debt to its defenders in this particular. It has gathered together under its protecting and perpetual care just on 200 deceased soldiers of the Empire, representing nearly every regiment of its far flung dominions, on which the sun never sets. It has saved many a mother's son from abandonment and an unknown grave at death, and has softened the harsh tidings, in the knowledge that "comrades" paid the last respects, and perpetuated their names. It has fulfilled the "Last Will and Testament" of a British Veteran, who (to use his own words) said:—"I ask no charity, only that you will see that I go to my last bed, covered by the 'Union Jack,' the flag under which I have served for many years."

Secondly, while fulfilling its primary object to the utmost, it has met and co-operated with the military authorities through a period of war and epidemic, in providing for the burial of nearly 100 men, who would otherwise have been scattered far and wide. It has co-operated with the various Record Departments of the British, Canadian, and other overseas Dominions in making reports of deaths and return of military documents, for statistical purposes.

Thirdly, when time and vandal desecration have obliterated or desecrated the "sleeping grounds" of the military pioneers of Canada—which unfortunately has been the case—this Association took an active interest in ef-

fecting restitution. It has, and is, striving to cultivate in the public, a deeper interest in, and care for, the resting places and archives pertaining to the military pioneers of the Province of Quebec in particular, which should tend to arouse the interest and pride of the rising generation.

Finally, for the past ten years it has studied minutely the sentimental, as applicable to the national, historical, and economical, aspects of the subject, and which it has applied itself to put into practical effect in the Province of Quebec. It has submitted a well thought out National Military Burial Scheme to the Dominion Government, comprehensive enough in its draft to eventually evolve Inter-Imperial co-operation as well as to meet the needs of the Dominion.

The wars of the past have been so insignificant as compared to the present one, from point of numbers engaged, that a scheme such as now under consideration would have appeared utopian in 1914. The "passing" of a few old war-scarred veterans, who would drop by the wayside, "unhonoured and unsung"—though none the less deserving than the soldier of to-day—did not disturb the public mind, but can we go on as a possible partner in the "League of Nations" echoing the valour of our heroes through press and preacher, while we inconsistently abandon them in the hour of death? **Or shall we emulate the spirit of our American Ally who sees to it that, through State and Civic Government co-operation every soldier's death reflects the inspiring magnanimity of a grateful nation?**

WHAT SHALL IT BE?

In the previous remarks dealing with this subject we have endeavoured to emphasize the **inconsistency** of our, so-called, **national patriotism** with the return we give—or rather, fail to give—our national heroes in the hour of death and adversity; though the nation owes them a debt of gratitude which at least should be reflected in its care of them after death.

We realized, unfortunately, that our parliamentary legislators—in general—are imbued with the primary convic-

tion that their duty is to appropriate the nation's Budget on a material basis, or in other words, that they must receive tangible value for the coin of the realm expended; **sentiment** does not enter into their calculations for one moment where they are called upon to deal with **the cost** of a scheme, which—philosophically or idealistically—means the life or death of the nation.

The conclusion we deduce then is, that on the outbreak of **war** a purely **materialistic** government appeals to the **sentiment** of the people, whose sentiment is proven by the response with their lives, to be met in the end with—what? —gratitude?—or ingratitude?

"This "National Debt" is entirely a matter of "national sentiment" and only in so far as the nation shows its sincere appreciation of that national attribute, may we expect our representations on this subject to bear results, and prove that:—

"For those who lie within a soldier's grave
The Empire's sons, the valiant and the brave,
Who gave their lives, the **Empire's** life to save,
Good Lord, we praise Thee."

It is in no spirit of egotism we submit, that perhaps this particular subject has never before been brought so forcibly to the attention of the Government as it has through the untiring efforts of the "Last Post" Fund during the past ten years, and it is therefore premature and unfair to assume that the Government has turned a deaf ear to our petitions; in fact, the reverse is the truth, for on all occasions our representations have been received with the greatest courtesy and sympathy, though **nothing has resulted to date.**

"The Die is now cast," however, for the great war we have just passed through has served to show that even if the world is at peace for the next fifty years, all along that trail we shall have heroes of the Marne, Ypres, Festubert, Gallipoli, and other famous engagements dropping off in the various vicissitudes of **life and its failures,** and who at least are entitled to "six feet of earth" in the last extremity.

The question then faces us, of how to deal with this problem from a sentimental, economical, and practical standpoint?

To champion a cause and criticize others for failure to deal with it adequately, without having a clear-cut and logical solution of the problem to offer as an alternative, would indeed be a poor recommendation of that cause;—therefore, fully appreciating the fact, the "Last Post" Fund after careful study and ten years' practical experience and demonstration without Government assistance, submitted to the Prime Minister of the Dominion on August 9th, 1917, the draft of a scheme that will not only deal with the requirements of the Dominion of Canada, but in its ultimate development may become reciprocally inter-Imperial through "the Empire on which the sun never sets."

In all probability the visible termination of the war was awaited by those entrusted with consideration of the scheme submitted, but on Saturday, November 16th, 1918, the Government, represented through Major-Gen. J. Lyons Biggar and Colonel Hugh Clarke, M.P. (Parliamentary representative of the Invalided Soldiers' Commission) met the "Last Post" Fund's Executive in conference at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, and discussed the draft of the scheme submitted by the "Last Post" Fund, which we give hereunder and which is, of course, subject to modification:—

CANADIAN BURIAL AND MEMORIAL SCHEME

(Subject to Modification).

The following is suggested by the "Last Post" I. N. & M. C. Fund:—

That the existing Trustees and Executive Officers be appointed as a Special Commission with full powers to evolve the undermentioned scheme,

Or as an alternative,—

A voluntary Commission of one representative from each of the Provinces of the Dominion be appointed in the capacity of an Advisory Council and a permanent Government Department be created, to be known as:—

such a Department to co-operate with the Department of Militia and Defence and co-ordinate with the "Invalided Soldiers' Commission" and other Departments.

The permanent staff to be:—

1. An Organizer and Director of Military Obituaries, who would be responsible for the organization, supervision and regulations governing the Department, as also the draft and consummation of all contracts.
2. An Archivist and Recorder, who would be responsible for recording all deaths of the C. E. F. and other sailors or soldiers during and subsequent to this war, both in Canada and those of the C. E. F. overseas. He would also gather and formulate reports on all data obtainable relative to military obituaries, ancient and modern.
3. A Landscape Artist and Superintendent of Military Cemeteries, who would suggest sites for Military Cemeteries and plots, as well as supervise the lay-out and maintenance of the same.

Procedure of Organization.

The present Provincial scheme in operation by the "Last Post" Fund, with modifications, to be extended throughout the Dominion and executed through the office of the D.A.A.G. in each Military District, the Federal and Provincial Governments to co-operate in assuming the financial responsibility.

District Branches of the Great War Veterans' Association, British Army and Navy Veterans' Association and others to be encouraged to form "Last Post" Chapters in their districts, to organize annual "Decoration Day" functions, attend Military funerals and offer suggestions that will tend to commemorate the valour of our National Heroes—"Lest we Forget."

Provision.

The Government to assume responsibility for the burial of any enlisted or **honourably discharged** officer or man

on request and proof of eligibility, whether of the Canadian or other forces of the British Empire.

Allowances to be asked (exclusive of transportation and church fees):—

Officers	$100.00
N.C.O.'s and enlisted men	65.00
Discharged	65.00

(These figures merely suggestive).

Full military honours provided for in K. R. & O. to be accorded all men with the active forces and wherever possible and consistent for discharged men.

The foregoing allowances are exclusive of the Cemetery arrangements, which might be as follows:—

In National Cemeteries or Plots:—

Officers.—A single grave in which (if married) his wife may be buried on decease.

Married men.—A single grave on the same conditions as above.

In the case of officers and men who are married and have families (if requested) an extra grave should be reserved alongside.

Single men.—In single graves or, if deemed advisable, may be buried on the "community" principle, two or three in a grave, except where the laws of sanitation necessitate otherwise, or

It might be advisable in view of the above National provision, that where relatives desired to make all burial arrangements themselves in civil cemeteries, the Government should make half the respective funeral allowances, plus $15.00 for Cemetery charges.

No scheme of Monuments or Memorials, other than the National flag, in the Cemeteries and Plots, should be adopted until public interest has been created by public competition of ideas, which could then be submitted to competent authority.

Co-operation with the Imperial Graves' Registration Commission should be sought in order to advise the Can-

adian Public who are unable to advise themselves, as to what is being done for the battlefields graves in Europe and elsewhere.

Summary of the Scheme.

A Department of Military and Naval Obituaries:

1. Director.
2. Archivist.
3. Landscape Artist and Superintendent of Cemeteries.

Responsibility.

Federal Government.—Finance funeral costs of every man enlisted for C. E. F. if requested, as also the upkeep of the Cemeteries and Executive Staff.

Provincial Governments.—Land grants or equivalent in cash for necessary Cemeteries and Plots within their respective boundaries and a cash grant of $50.00 for every "indigent" Canadian dying within the Province.

Home and Overseas Governments of the Other Dominions.—A grant to this Department of the Dominion of Canada of $50.00 for every "indigent" soldier or ex-soldier or sailor of their respective Governments, who may die within the dominion; this obligation to be reciprocated by the Dominion of Canada in the case of Canadians dying within the borders of the Homeland or other overseas Dominions.

The Canadian War Memorial Fund and the Public.—

To raise funds voluntarily for Memorials and the burial of "indigents" of previous wars of the British Empire.

Suggestions in consideration of the above Dominion-wide Naval and Military Burial scheme:—

Basic Principles.

1. Complete co-operation between the following in all matters obituary:—

Naval Department.
Militia Department.
Invalided Soldiers' Commission.
Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.
Board of Pensioners and Estate Department.

for the organization, establishment and upkeep of all that pertains to a Department to be known as **The Department of Naval and Military Obituaries.**

2. A contingency reserve to be appropriated simultaneously with all permanent pensions awarded by the Pension Board to cover the cost of burial of deceased Pensioners.

   The extension of Par. 502 of the Pay and Allowance Regulation, to cover the cost of burial of all discharged men of the Canadian Forces, whether in receipt of Pension or not, which may possibly be gradually extended by Inter-Imperial reciprocal action, to take care of men of other integral parts of the Empire who may die within our borders friendless.

3. Effort to effect combined Federal, Provincial and Civic Government financial responsibility for such a scheme with a view to its equitable distribution, admitting of public subscription and representation on the Advisory Board, thus ensuring the proper sentiment and "soul."

Other Points.

Provision for interment of relatives of deceased soldiers in Military reservations.

Care of existing (ancient) Military Burial grounds and historical records to be included in any new scheme.

Co-operation with the Imperial Graves' Registration Commission for the supply of information relative to graves in Europe.

A Report on deaths and disposal of remains of **Enemy** Prisoners of War in Canada during the war.

The inclusion (in some measure) of men of other campaigns in the scheme.

Division of cemetery reservations to meet the requirements of **other** than the Roman Catholic and Protestant denominations

Classification of Soldiers to be Dealt With.

(a) Men of the Permanent Forces and families.
(b) Men enlisted for the period of the war.
(c) Discharged men—with pension.
Discharged men—without pension.
Discharged men undergoing rehabilitation training.
(d) Men of other parts of the Empire.

Maj.-Gen. Biggar and Colonel Clarke appeared to be very favorably impressed with the feasibility of the scheme, and especially with the work accomplished by the "Last Post" Fund to date, and in due course reported back to Ottawa. We await with interest the decision—still pending—which we trust will be arrived at during the coming session of Parliament.

For the enlightenment of those not conversant with Military rules and regulations, regarding post-discharge pay, etc., we desire to emphasize the fact that under present conditions the minute after **final** discharge from the Army or Navy the Government is absolved of all responsibility for burial in case of death, even though the man be on Pension; this results in cases of abandonment and indignity amongst many who, though not by any means "indigents" at death, are far distant from those who would otherwise care for them, and places them in danger of becoming a "public charge" or "pauper."

Rough Estimate of Cost to the Dominion Over a Period of the Next Fifty Years.

Taking the present allowance of $65.00 (to be equitably distributed between funeral and burial expenses but exclusive of Cemetery and Staff upkeep) and allowing for say, 300,000 troops, this would make $19,500,000 or an annual expenditure of $390,000, though this is a conservative estimate, with a ground area (distributed) of 500 to 600 acres.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OTTAWA.

Dear Sir,—

Your letter of the 5th instant has been handed to me on my return from Inspections with His Royal Highness.

I return herewith the letters you enclosed, and have to express to you His Royal Highness's sympathies with the object of your Association, namely, to guarantee a Christian interment for every honourably discharged soldier or sailor should he die in indigent circumstances. Your movement is heartily endorsed by His Royal Highness and is worthy of the best support.

I am, yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. S. STANTON,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Military Secretary.

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE,
OTTAWA, CANADA.

My Dear Sir,—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th August concerning the work of the "Last Post" Fund. The objects and motive of this fund must command universal sympathy. Particularly at this time, British subjects everywhere will appreciate the work of your organization.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) R. L. BORDEN.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, OTTAWA.

Dear Sir,—

In reply to your letter of the 10th inst., I beg to say that it seems to me that the objects of your Association are most excellent, and I wish you every success in the good work.

Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) GEORGE H. PERLEY.

THE SENATE, CANADA.

Dear Sir,—

I am in receipt of your circular and copies of letters re the "Last Post" Fund.

I cordially agree with the object you have in view, and trust your petition will receive that consideration at the hands of the Premier that its importance deserves.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) W. OWENS.

Resolution Passed at Convention of Union of Canadian Municipalities.

Moved by Alderman Boyd, of Montreal, seconded by ex-Mayor W. D. Lighthall, Westmount:—

"That this Union of Canadian Municipalities endorses the principle of it being the duty of the Governments (Federal and Provincial) to see to it that those ex-soldiers and ex-sailors, who having served the Empire and been honourably discharged, die in Canada in indigent circumstances, shall be provided with a decent and honourable burial."

CARRIED.

THE GREAT WAR VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, MONTREAL DISTRICT.

Dear Sir:

At the last meeting of our Executive Committee the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"That this Committee do express its full confidence in the work that is at present being carried on by the "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund of Montreal; and further, that this Executive desire to express their willingness to aid the "Last Post" Fund in any way possible to continue the work they have so nobly undertaken and so ably carried out in the past."

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) VICTOR R. BROWN,
Secretary.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATED BOARD OF TRADE and EASTERN TOWNSHIPS IMMIGRATION SOCIETY, INC.

Copy of Resolution passed at Richmond on June 20th, 1917:—

"WHEREAS, we are not aware of any public provision having been made whereby a Christian interment is guaranteed discharged soldiers or sailors, who are unfortunate enough to die in indigent circumstances," and

"WHEREAS, the "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund, a body corporate, having its head office in the City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, has petitioned the Government of the Province for not only financial assistance towards the object for which it was formed, viz., the providing for the respectful burial of sailors and soldiers who have served the Empire, and who die in indigent circumstances, but that the Government take early steps to assume such duty as a public function, now therefore it is moved by E. W. Farwell, Sherbrooke, seconded by Dr. Hayes, Richmond Que.,

"That this Eastern Townships Associated Boards of Trade in quarterly meeting assembled do endorse the principle of it being the duty of the Governments (Federal and Provincial) to see to it that these ex-soldiers and ex-sailors who have served the Empire and have been honourably discharged, die in Canada in indigent circumstances, shall be provided with a decent and honourable burial,

"FURTHERMORE, that until such time as the Government does assume the duty itself that suitable financial aid be given by the Government to the Fund above referred to in order to enable it to carry on the work."

Carried unanimously.

DOMINION COUNCIL G. W. V. A.,

Citizen Building, Ottawa.

Copy of Resolution presented to the Prime Minister by the Executive of the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada:—

"The indifference with which the people of all times have accepted the services of those who fight for our liberties, and permit them to sink into oblivion, reflects very gravely upon the ingratitude of humanity. To provide honourable burial for a soldier or a sailor who has

faithfully served his country should not be left to the chance generosity of the individual. It is a duty which should take precedence over all others. To honour and protect in death, seems but a small return to him who has protected the Nation's honour in life."

Having in mind the above sentiment expressed by one of Canada's leading citizens, We, the Executive Committee of the Great War Veterans' Association, desire to call the attention of the Government to the lack of any provision existing covering suitable burial of those who have served in the Wars of the Empire and believing in our opinion that this is a matter in which the Federal Government should act, we respectfully request:—

(1) That all Veterans who have served with the forces of Great Britain or her Allies, in the present Great War, or served with Britain in her previous wars, be accorded a military or semi-military funeral when it is possible to make such an arrangement, and that when the deceased leaves no funds for his burial the Federal Government shall meet the cost of decent interment.

(2) That National Military Cemeteries be established, or arrangements made for military plots in established cemeteries, where veterans may be laid to rest, when no suitable place is available.

(3) That the Government of the Dominion of Canada absorb and undertake the work at present being carried on by the "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund of Montreal, since we feel it is not a matter for private or public philanthropy, but a duty that belongs to the State he or she has served.

(Sgd.) N. F. R. KNIGHT,

June 9th, 1917. Sec'y.-Treasurer.

RECORDER'S CHAMBERS, MONTREAL.

Dear Sir:—

I esteem highly the opportunity which is presented to me of stating my whole-souled sympathy with the noble work of the "Last Post" Fund, as cited in the leaflet and

communications which you were good enough to direct to me.

While, and quite properly, monuments are erected everywhere to commemorate the deeds of British Army and Navy leaders who have devoted their abilities and lives to the upholding of the glorious traditions of the Empire on land and sea, it is at most but a tardy recognition of the devotion and indomitable courage of those less fortunately placed to provide suitable resting places for the humble and unknown heroes through whose cheerful obedience to orders and willingness to suffer, great names emblazon the pages of British History.

Until such time and perhaps even now it is not too far distant—as our Governments come to the realization that there is a sacred duty placed upon them to perpetuate in death the cherished memory of all ranks in the two services, it is, I take it, the present obligation of all grateful subjects of the Crown to aid in every possible way in the accomplishment of the work symbolized by the "Last Post" Fund.

Yours is not a Charity—it is the carrying beyond the grave, to the noble men who have laid down their lives in the cause of Empire, a slight but enduring mark of affectionate respect and admiration.

(Sgd.) G. H. SEMPLE, Recorder.

CITY HALL, MONTREAL,

Dear Sir:—

Your letter of the 10th inst., with enclosures, is before me, having reference to a special effort your Association is making to have its work placed on a permanent and substantial footing.

The indifference with which the peoples of all times have accepted the services of those who fight for our liberties and permit them to sink into oblivion reflects very gravely on the ingratitude of humanity. To provide honourable burial for a soldier or sailor who has faithfully

served his country should not be left to the chance generosity of the individual; it is a duty which should take precedence over all others. To honour and protect in death seems but a small return to him who has protected the Nation's honour in life.

Your movement is one having my heartiest endorsation, and I consider it worthy of the best and highest support.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) E. W. VILLENEUVE,
Controller.

French-Canadian Section of the Veterans of the Great War, District of Montreal.

MONTREAL.

Moved by M. G. Couturier, seconded by M. R. Larose:—

WHEREAS, the "Last Post" Association has, since 1909, worked in the interest of the Veterans to assure them a dignified sepulture at death, for services rendered:

WHEREAS, there is a movement on foot at the moment to overshadow the rights acquired and due the said Association;

BE IT RESOLVED, That the French-Canadian Section of the Great War Veterans Association, District of Montreal, energetically protest against this movement, and assure the said Association, known as the "Last Post" Fund, of their support, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Right Honourable the Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada.

Carried unanimously.

Les Sac Au Dos De 1914.

(Societe Militaire Francaise).

Dear Sir:—

I beg to inform you that a resolution has been forwarded to the Hon. Prime Minister endorsing the petition

of the "Last Post" Fund with regard to the project of a Dominion-wide organization for the interment and perpetuation of the memory of the men who have died after having served in the Naval and Military Forces of the Empire.

Believe me, Dear Sir, yours very sincerely,

(Sgd.) J. P. CHEVASSU, Secretary.

THE OPINION OF WELL KNOWN BRITISH OFFICERS

WAR OFFICE, Whitehall, S.W.

Dear Sir:—

The cause you have at heart has my deepest sympathy. It is inspired, surely, by true camaraderie and a sentiment for honour of the defenders of the Empire. From the dead no return, not even gratitude or thanks, can be expected, and it is that, in my humble opinion, ennobles your aim and puts it on a higher, if less material, basis than any ordinary charity.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) IAN HAMILTON.

ADMIRALTY, S.W.

Sir:—

I must thank you for sending me the leaflet "Last Post" and for the opportunity thus afforded by expressing my appreciation of the organization which has such a praiseworthy object as the one it explains.

It forges one more link in the chain binding the forces of the Colony and of the Mother Country, a chain which cannot be too firmly bound.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) W. T. ADAIR,
D.A.G. Royal Marines.

THE CASTLE, Richmond, Yorks.

Sir:—

I cordially agree in the aims put forward, namely, showing honour in the last rites of any man who has served his country either in the Army or Navy, and I hope that your excellent example will be followed in all parts of our Empire.

Believe me, yours truly,

(Sgd.) R. W. BADEN-POWELL.

COOMBE, Salisbury.

Sir:—

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 31st ult., bringing to my notice the object of the "Last Post" Imperial Naval and Military Contingency Fund.

A more estimable fund it would be difficult to imagine; but it is sad to think that it should be left to private individuals to provide a suitable burial for those who have served their country and offered their lives for the honour of the flag.

As it is the case, it is pleasant to know that there are people, many I hope, that will do their utmost to prevent cases occurring which would bring disgrace to the Government and to the community in general.

I hope your Fund will realize the support it deserves.

Yours faithfully,

.. (Sgd.) FRED W. BENSON, Maj.-Gen.

---

10 Belgrave Crescent, Edinburgh.

Sir:—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 31st, in regard to the "Last Post" Fund.

The correspondence relating to its inception passed through my hands when I held the appointment of Military Secretary to the Governor-General of Canada, and I need hardly say that I wish the project every success and hope that ere long some arrangement may be made in Canada which will prevent the necessity for it.

I am, yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) J. HANBURY WILLIAMS,
Brigadier-General to Admin.,
Scottish Command, Edinburgh.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Portsmouth.

Dear Sir:—

The work you have undertaken is a work of true patriotism, and must command the sympathy and gratitude of every British soldier, and, indeed, of every man and woman who have any affection for their country. It is by acts such as those of your members that the links binding together the separated lands of the Empire are cemented.

I am, yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) W. TROTTER, Maj.-Gen., ..
Southern Commander Coast Defence.

THE OPINION OF AN AUTHORITY

BRITISH MUSEUM,
London, Eng., Feb. 13th, 1919.

Dear Sir:—

I have received and read with interest the papers which you were good enough to send me with regard to the "Last Post" Fund.

The original conception of the Fund—to secure that no sailor or soldier of the Empire shall lie in a pauper's grave—was a fine and noble one.

The scale of the recent war makes it impossible to continue such a work on the basis of private contributions, and it seems to me eminently right that the State shall undertake the responsibility for its continuance by providing adequate funds.

The Imperial Graves Commission, with which I am connected, has for its primary duty the care of the graves of the soldiers of the Empire buried in the various theatres of war. It has, however, recently taken over responsibility for military cemeteries in Great Britain, and I think it will very probably undertake, further, to erect headstones of the accepted military pattern over the graves of any soldiers buried in a civil cemetery if so desired. The funds for these purposes are being provided by the several Governments of the Empire in proportion to the casualties amongst their forces.

An order was issued early in the war that no soldier should be buried as a pauper; and no one can question the propriety of such an order.

I enclose a copy of my report on war graves, in case it may interest you. The scheme proposed in it has been accepted by the Commission and, though modifications in

detail may be found necessary, it seems likely to be carried out as a whole.

My object is the same as yours—to secure that the graves of our sailors and soldiers shall be treated with becoming reverence.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) FREDERICK KENYON.

A. H. D. Hair, Esq.

(Sir Frederick G. Kenyon is Advisor to the Imperial Graves Registration Commission).

The foregoing are merely a few of many such letters and resolutions indicative of public opinion on the subject.

Supplementary Memorial Fund of Canada

Founded May 8th, 1916.

Patron-in-Chief

FIELD MARSHAL, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G., ETC., ETC.

Honorary President

HIS EXCELLENCY
THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE K.G., ETC., ETC.
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA.

Patrons

HIS HONOUR, THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR
THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.
HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF MONTREAL,
MGR. BRUSCHESI.
THE LORD BISHOP OF MONTREAL,
RT. REV. J. C. FARTHING.

Trustees

MAJ.-GEN.—E. W. WILSON, C.M.G.,
(G.O.C., 4th Military District).
CHAPLAIN-COL., REV. CANON J. M. ALMOND.
C.M.G., M.A., D.C.L.
COMMANDER, J. T. WALSH, R.N.R.

Government House

Ottawa. May 5th, 1916.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst., I am desired by The Governor-General to thank you for sending him the first sheet of the seals you are putting on sale in aid of your Supplementary Memorial Fund.

His Royal Highness will be glad to use the first one on Monday next the 8th instant.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) Arthur F. Sladen,
Private Secretary.

ARTHUR H. D. HAIR, Hon. Secy-Treas.
"LAST POST" Fund, Montreal.

LOYAL CANADIANS!

"Let your money, the last penny,
From your Empire's coffers pour,
Stake your all, and do your utmost,
For 'tis Freedom's Holy War."

You have no doubt contributed in some way or other to the welfare and comfort of our boys at the front.

But how about **those who have made the supreme sacrifice,** in laying down their lives for you and the Empire ?

There is one thing more you can do for them—you will want to share in Canada's tribute to their glorious memory.

Therefore, put your seal of gratitude on the back of every letter and parcel you send to your friends in future, or send a contribution, and thus help the "Last Post" Memorial Fund to raise a contribution worthy of Canada !

Buy Some "LAST POST" Seals!

Do It Now! and Do It Well!!

"LEST WE FORGET"

They are put up in packages of 10 and 25 at 10 cts. and 25 cts. respectively, or sheets of fifty at 50 cts.

Subscriptions and Cheques may be made payable to The Trustees "Last Post" Supplementary Memorial Fund, P. O. Box 1382, G.P.O. Montreal.

The "Last Post" I. N. & M.C. Fund

ESTABLISHED APRIL 1909

INCORPORATED JUNE 1909

Supplementary Memorial Fund

INAUGURATED BY

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G., etc., etc.

MAY 8th, 1916.

Net proceeds to be devoted to Memorials in memory of our fallen Heroes after the War :--

"LEST WE FORGET"

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

Field Marshal, His Royal Highness The Duke of Connaught, K.G., etc.,etc.

PATRONS

The Lieut. Gov. the Prov. of Quebec
Earl Grey, G.C M.G., G.C.V.O., P.C.
The Archbishop of Montreal
His Grace Mgr. Bruchesi
The Lord Bishop of Montreal
Rt. Rev. J. C. Farthing, D.D.
Maj. Gen.: Hon. Sir Sam. Hughes, K.C.B.
Sir Montagu Allan, Kt. C.V.O.
Sir Hugh Graham, Kt.
Hon. J. J. Guerin, M.D., C.M.
Lt. Col. J. T. Ostell

Hon. President, Chaplain-Major
Rev. Canon F. J. Scott
Hon. Legal Advisor
Lt. Col. W. F. Hibbard

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Brig. General: E. W. Wilson,
(O. C. 4th Divisional Area)
Chaplain Col.: Rev. Canon J. M. Almond
Commander: J. T. Walsh, R.N.R.
(Naval representative)

Auditors-Messrs. G. Durnford & Co. Ltd.
Bankers—Bank of Montreal
Hon. Sec. Treas.—P. O. Box 1382,
G.P.O. Montreal.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE IN THIS?

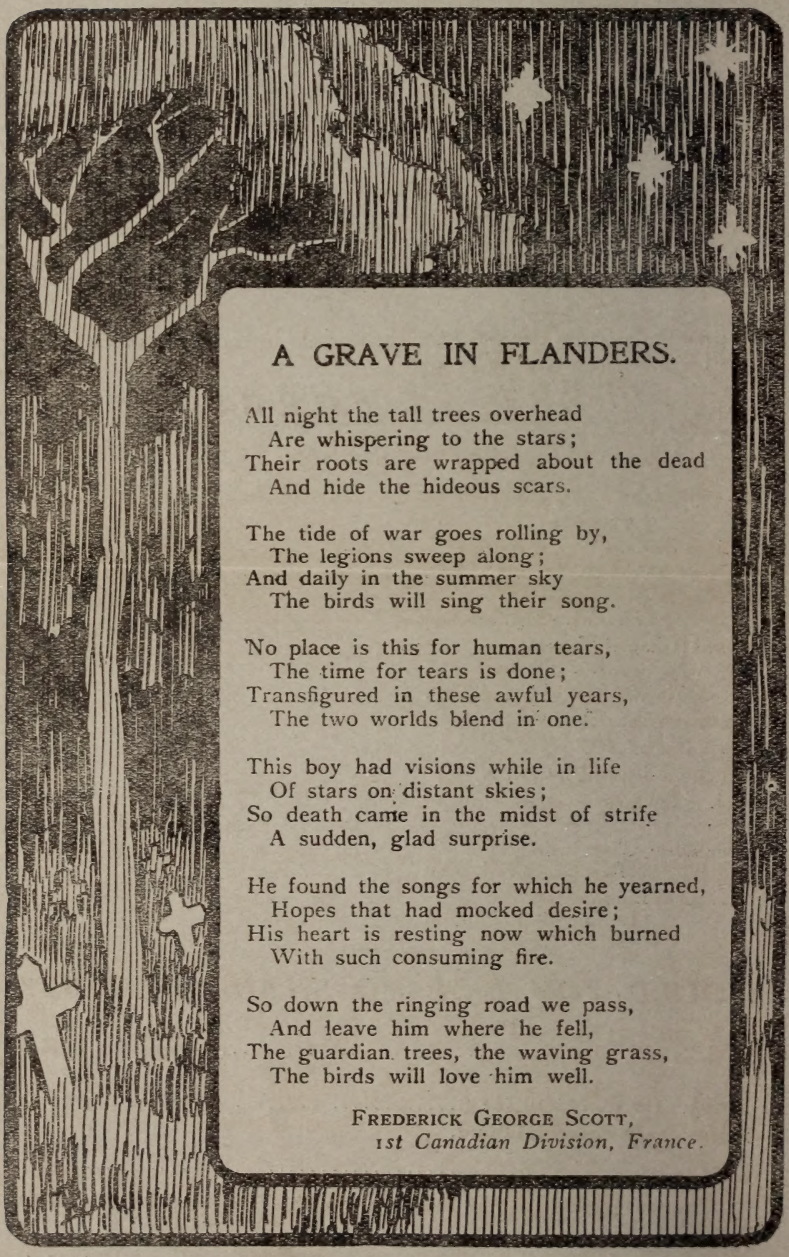
I, ... herewith enclose my cheque (or donation) for $..... ..... to be applied to the Supplementary Memorial Fund.

.....

Cheques payable to The Trustees, c/o The Treasurer, P.O. Box 1382 Montreal.

The executive desire the public to understand moneys received for this particular Fund IS NOT applied to the general work of the "Last Post Fund."

"LEST WE FORGET"



A GRAVE IN FLANDERS.

All night the tall trees overhead
  Are whispering to the stars;
Their roots are wrapped about the dead
  And hide the hideous scars.

The tide of war goes rolling by,
  The legions sweep along;
And daily in the summer sky
  The birds will sing their song.

No place is this for human tears,
  The time for tears is done;
Transfigured in these awful years,
  The two worlds blend in one.

This boy had visions while in life
  Of stars on distant skies;
So death came in the midst of strife
  A sudden, glad surprise.

He found the songs for which he yearned,
  Hopes that had mocked desire;
His heart is resting now which burned
  With such consuming fire.

So down the ringing road we pass,
  And leave him where he fell,
The guardian trees, the waving grass,
  The birds will love him well.

FREDERICK GEORGE SCOTT,
1st Canadian Division, France.

(*Kindness Montreal Star.*)